

VACATION AT THE CAPITAL.

DEPARTMENT NEWS.
A FOUR PER CENT-SUGAR PLANTS-THE TARIFF-MINOR NEWS.

A selection for the Governorship of Utah is under consideration at Washington, and a lively canvass is being made both by the friends and the opponents of the present Governor. Treasury officials are reticent about the intentions of Secretary Sherman as to issuing more 4 per cent bonds. Letters are, however, being received daily in favor of bonds bearing that rate of interest. A large number of tariff bills are being discussed by the House Committee on Ways and Means. Dr. Collier reports that the New-Englanders are beginning to be interested in sugar growing. The clerks at Washington are to have holiday vacations.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF UTAH.

A CRISIS APPROACHING IN UTAH WHICH REQUIRES A FIRM MAN AT THE HEAD OF AFFAIRS—GOSPEL ABOUT THE OPPOSITION TO GOVERNOR EMERY.
(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The opposition to the reappointment of Governor Emery, of Utah, is becoming very aggressive. Mr. McBride, of Salt Lake City, one of the most prominent lawyers of the Territory, came to Washington to attend the recent meeting of the National Republican Committee; and during his stay here he has been called upon by the President in relation to the Governorship of Utah. He is understood to make no accusations against Governor Emery, but he represents to the President that the Gentiles in Salt Lake City desire the appointment of some man who is more outspoken in his opposition to Mormonism and in whom they would have more confidence in case of trouble. Mr. McBride does not complain of anything which Governor Emery has done or left undone, but fears that he may not prove equal to any emergency that may arise.

Among the means that are being used by others in the attempt to prevent the reappointment of Governor Emery is a charge that has been widely published in the newspapers that the Governor approved a law passed by the Territorial Legislature which repealed the statutes against sedition, adultery, and kindred crimes. This repeal, it is asserted, left the Territory destitute of "any law that could reach Polygamy." A Tribune correspondent made a careful and thorough search to-day through the journals of the Legislative Assembly of Utah covering the entire period of Governor Emery's administration. The examination proved that the above accusation is wholly false. If any law against adultery, seduction, etc., ever existed in Utah, it was repealed before Governor Emery's time, and he is not to blame for its abolition.

Another accusation against the Governor is that he has favored an election law which gives the Mormons practical control of elections. The facts are, as shown by the legislative records of Utah, that he has steadily used his influence in favor of an amendment of the election laws, and from the very charge against him, it appears that he has successfully succeeded in securing the adoption of a law providing for a secret ballot. Before that, the law required that each ballot should be indorsed with the name of the voter. This, of course, placed almost unlimited power in the hands of the Mormon hierarchy.

As to the general accusation that Governor Emery "has virtually been acting for a long time in the interest of the Mormons," a study of the journals above referred to shows that the contrary is true. The Governor's two regular messages, and the numerous other messages which he has sent to the Legislature on special subjects, prove that he has maintained a firm and dignified attitude in support of the laws of the United States. In the city, one of the most active is Chief Justice Hunter, of Utah. In conversation with the President yesterday, he assured the latter that the Governor could be depended upon to act fearlessly in any emergency, and that it will be a great mistake to fail to reappoint him now, when affairs in Utah seem to be approaching a crisis, and when there is perfect unanimity of feeling among the Federal officers of the Territory. The President has great confidence in Judge Hunter, and will probably be influenced by his advice. The Administration is in earnest in its determination to act fearlessly in any emergency, and its only desire is to have a man in the Executive chair of Utah who will not falter in his duty. If the President can be convinced that Governor Emery is such a man, as he undoubtedly is, he will certainly reappoint him.

It is understood that already two candidates are in the field for Governor Emery's place. One of these is General Charles Ewing, of Ohio, a brother of Congressman Ewing, and the other is Secretary Sherman. The other is N. G. Ordway, formerly Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives.

THE NEW IDEA IN SUGAR GROWING.

DE. COLLIER SAYS THAT NEW-ENGLAND IS MUCH INTERESTED AND WILL MAKE AN EXPERIMENT.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Dr. Collier, the chemist of the Agricultural Department, has just returned from New-England, whither he went in regard to the sorghum and cornstalk sugar project. He made several addresses before large meetings of farmers, and reports that there is already a widespread interest in New-England in the new movement. He thinks that about two hundred farmers in that section of the Union will experiment in sorghum culture and sugar manufacture on a small scale next year.

Dr. Collier stated yesterday to a correspondent of THE TRIBUNE that his experiments have demonstrated that an acre of sorghum will produce as much sugar as an acre of the best sugar cane, with this great advantage for the sorghum, that the latter plant can be grown from Maine to California, and from Minnesota to Texas, while the sugar cane can only be successfully cultivated in a portion of Louisiana. Again sorghum may be grown with as much certainty as Indian corn.

In regard to cornstalk sugar, Dr. Collier said that the plant is probably one-third less valuable than the sorghum, but is still susceptible to the profitable working. "In fact," he said, "our farmers have been throwing away about two-thirds of the value of their corn crop for the last hundred years."

LOOKING OVER THE TARIFF BILLS.

(GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—During the present session of Congress and previous to the recess, thirty-two bills providing for changes of the Tariff laws were referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. These are being considered during the recess by the chairman and other members of the committee. Several of them will doubtless be reported to the House as soon as the consideration of the new rules, which will have precedence over all other business, is disposed of. These bills propose amendments to ascertain on what terms a mutually beneficial treaty of commerce with France, Brazil and Canada may be concluded. They also relate to the duties on sugar, samples, medicines, tin, pistols, jute bolls, Peruvian bark, books, chemicals and salt, being mostly free-trade bills. There are two or three free ship bills, and there is one which proposes to terminate the treaty with Hawaii.

THE FIGHT OF THE LOTTERY COMPANY.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The Louisiana Lottery case is to be argued to-morrow before the full bench of the District Court. The amended bill which has been filed is substantially like the original, but contains some verbal changes. There is no reason to expect a result more favorable to the complainants than was experienced in the hearing upon the original bill. The Lottery Company has engaged Congressmen Ellis, of Louisiana, and Casey Young, of Tennessee, to act with Senator Carpenter and other counsel in its behalf.

HOLIDAYS FOR THE CLERKS.

(GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—A general order is about to be issued by the President, with regard to the closing of the Executive Departments during the

holidays. All the departments will be closed on Christmas and New Year's days. On the days intervening between the two holidays, the departments will be open for business between the hours of 10 and 1. All of the other Departments will be open from 9 to 12. At the Navy Department the clerical force will be arranged so that alternate days may be kept thus allowing about half of the force to be absent from duty every other day. All the Departments will be closed at 12 o'clock to-morrow.

FOUR PER CENT BONDS.

WHAT CONGRESSMEN AND OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE PROPOSED ISSUE OF BONDS FOR REFUNDING PURPOSES.

(GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—A leading member of the House, and one of the strongest advocates of a three-and-a-half per cent bond, expressed the opinion this evening that Secretary Sherman will not take the responsibility of issuing the remaining \$108,000,000 of four per cent bonds, authorized by a former act of Congress, in the face of the evident intention of Congress to restrict all further funding operations to a rate of interest not exceeding 3½ per cent.

Treasury officials, while reticent as to any expressed intention or purpose on the part of the Secretary to issue the remaining \$108,000,000 of 4 per cents, do not hesitate to affirm that he decidedly favors doing so, and that he delays rather from the fact that legislation is now pending in Congress than from doubts which he may entertain in the expediency in such a move.

In support of the Secretary's views the Department is in receipt of letters and telegrams from leading bond holders assuring him that it would be impossible at present to float any considerable number of bonds at par bearing a lower rate of interest than 4 per cent. The interest-bearing debt there are now outstanding \$274,392,550 of 6 per cent bonds which mature in June, 1881, and \$308,440,350 of 5 per cent bonds which mature in May, 1882, making a total of \$582,832,900 of 5 and 6 per cent bonds maturing in 1881, and for their payment or refunding some provision must be made by the Government. Secretary Sherman favors a 4 per cent bond, believing it will secure the desired results, at once relieving the Government of the embarrassment it must necessarily experience if the 5 and 6 per cents are allowed to mature without refunding. These bonds at present rates afford an opportunity to dispose of them advantageously, and secure themselves against the contingency of a failure on the part of the Government to redeem them at maturity.

THE GOOD LUCK OF THE FARMERS.

THE STAPLE CROPS OF THE PAST YEAR WORTH AT LEAST FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS MORE THAN THOSE OF THE YEAR BEFORE.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—An interesting table has been prepared at the Agricultural Department from estimated and reported crop returns for the season just closed. The statement, which was carefully prepared, shows the amounts of the several staples raised in the whole United States, together with the amounts produced in the preceding year. The values given are not the quoted prices in the market, but the values to producers. It will be seen that the total increase of value of agricultural productions for the past season, as compared with the values of the preceding year, is nearly \$416,000,000. The table is as follows:

Crops.	Product.	1878.	Value.
Wheat, bushels.	420,122,496	385,616,424	
Corn, bushels.	1,488,235,309	1,413,043,105	
Oats, bushels.	413,078,520	401,945,830	
Barley, bushels.	135,922,321	135,922,321	
Rye, bushels.	42,245,415	42,245,415	
Buckwheat, bushels.	12,246,820	12,246,820	
Hay, tons.	38,924,700	38,924,700	
Tobacco, pounds.	120,834,041	120,834,041	
Hay, tons.	124,120,850	124,120,850	
Total.			\$1,488,235,309

Crops.	Product.	1879.	Value.
Wheat, bushels.	445,153,000	419,008,000	
Corn, bushels.	1,548,000,000	1,488,235,309	
Oats, bushels.	425,230,000	401,945,830	
Barley, bushels.	135,922,321	135,922,321	
Rye, bushels.	42,245,415	42,245,415	
Buckwheat, bushels.	12,246,820	12,246,820	
Hay, tons.	38,924,700	38,924,700	
Tobacco, pounds.	120,834,041	120,834,041	
Hay, tons.	124,120,850	124,120,850	
Total.			\$1,904,480,629

The statistician of the Agricultural Department is gathering material upon which to base a careful estimate of the total increase in certain other values during the year just closing. This will include the increased value of real estate and of mining property. He expresses the opinion, based upon material already gathered, that it will not fall below \$1,000,000,000.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1879.

Collector Young, of Raleigh, N. C., has captured an illicit distillery with ten staves and 200 gallons of beer. A deputy in Montgomery County has seized a distillery which was producing about forty miles south of Valley Forge. The proprietor escaped, firing on the deputy and wounding his horse.

The United States Consul at Valparaiso reports, under date of November 3, 1879, the wreck and total loss of the bark Midas, of Baltimore, Me., Andrew Curtis, master. The bark was about forty miles south of Valparaiso. None of the crew was lost, and they have been provided for by the Consul.

Mr. W. F. Mangum, United States Consul at Nagasaki, in a communication to the Department of State, dated Dec. 18, 1879, announced the completion of an immense dry-dock, the largest in Asiatic waters. Its dimensions are: Length, 402 feet; width, 99 feet; depth, 34½ feet, with twenty-six feet of water at the entrance. This is the largest of the kind in the world, and the promises of the future prosperity of Nagasaki.

A number of leading tobacco manufacturers from New-York held a conference with Assistant-Secretary French, of the Treasury Department, and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, today. The manufacturers protested against the proposed change in the manner of printing internal revenue stamps on tin foil tobacco wraps. The Department promised to consult the tobacco growers before making alterations.

With reference to the proposed negotiations for a commercial treaty between the United States and Roumania, Secretary Evans has instructed Minister Kasson to take notice of the letters filed at the State Department by Mr. Simon Wolf, protesting against any recognition of Roumania until it complies with the provisions of the Berlin Treaty, guaranteeing not only civil, but religious liberty to all its subjects. Minister Kasson is instructed to act in accordance with the requests of this letter.

The Treasury has issued a circular instructing Collectors of Customs that in no case should the names of shippers and consignees be furnished for publication, or be permitted to be published from the records or files of the Custom House. They are also requested whenever a written request to that effect shall be filed by shippers to refuse to cause to be withheld from publication for a period not exceeding ninety days, statistics relating to the importation or shipment of any particular merchandise imported or shipped by them.

A BLOW IN SELF-DEFENSE.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—A dispatch from Logansport, Ind., states that on Sunday night Jeremiah Asaba was aroused by Nathan Thomas and a man named Rutherford, who demanded admission. Asaba was refused and they knocked in the door. They were completely split his head open. Rutherford fled. Asaba surrendered himself. He is an old and quiet citizen and public opinion justifies his act.

INVESTIGATION AT CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—John Love, the expert, arrived here from Washington to-day for the purpose of making a thorough investigation of the records in the office of the Clerk of the United States Court.

MINNESOTA COLLEGE BUILDINGS BURNED.

NORTHFIELD, Minn., Dec. 23.—The buildings of Carleton College were burned to-day. No parties were present at the time of the fire, which was caused by a candle. The college was closed for vacation.

(For Other Fires see Second Page.)

IMPROVING THE LIFE-SAVING SERVICE.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Dec. 23.—Superintendent Haven, of the Life-Saving Station No. 4, has arranged to hereafter equip each life-saving station between Sandy Hook and Point Pleasant with a team of horses

to pull the life-raft and apparatus to scenes of shipwreck. Heretofore, as in the case of the late wreck of the Argo, it was found almost impossible to pull the apparatus through the sea to the wreck.

THE OUTRAGE IN MAINE.

PARTIES ARRAYED IN THE STATE.

INDIGNANT MEETING IN PORTLAND.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 23.—An enthusiastic indignation meeting was held here to-night. Ex-Governor Washburne presided, criticized severely the action of the Governor and Council, denounced their proceedings, and made an appeal to honest Democrats.

Congressman T. B. Reed followed, and after stating that he came in no partisan spirit, said: "For this crime I hold no party responsible. The misguided men who have done the deed are thus far alone guilty. Whether anyone else is to be held responsible will depend upon their acts."

Speeches were also made by George F. Talbot and others.

REPUBLICANS UNITING FOR DEFENCE.

AUGUSTA, Me., Dec. 23.—A meeting of the Republican State Committee and prominent Republicans from various parts of the State was held at Senator Maine's residence last evening.

The following committee was appointed to advise and cooperate with the Republican members of the Legislature: The Hon. L. M. Morrill, the Hon. Henry Dingley, Colonel J. E. Heath, Colonel J. W. Spradley, Captain G. A. Bonelle, Colonel J. L. Richards and Allen Sprague.

THE GOVERNOR'S COURSE APPROVED.

AUGUSTA, Me., Dec. 23.—The Fusionists held a meeting here this evening, and speeches were made approving the action of the Governor as being thoroughly in accordance with the laws and Constitution of the State. Resolutions were adopted endorsing the course of the Governor. A speech was made by George F. Talbot and his colleagues in the action they had taken.

AN EMPHATIC WORD FROM MR. HAYES.

THE PRESIDENT TELLS REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAMS THAT THE MAINE DEMOCRATS WILL NOT SUCCEED.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Representative Williams, of Wisconsin, had an interesting interview with the President this morning, during which the President expressed his views regarding the state of affairs in Maine.

The President had been describing a scene in the Ohio Legislature of 1849, where the Hon. B. Randall, a mutual acquaintance, had, amid the howlings of the mob, declared Governor Ford elected.

Representative Williams then remarked that it was not pleasant to think of 138 electoral votes in the South, where popular elections are virtually ignored; and he asked the President if he did not feel that the talk, now becoming so common, of Democrats in one Legislature grabbing the electoral votes of their State, and the Republicans doing the same in another State, is fraught with danger.

The President replied quickly and with emphasis: "But they are not going to grab them. This Maine business is not going to succeed." He added that if he were one of the Republican members of the Legislature of Maine he would sit there until September. By every device known to parliamentary law for the protection of minorities, all other business should be suspended until the wrong should be righted. He would not resort to force, but he would endeavor to bring to bear upon those gentlemen such a weight of public opinion that they could not escape or resist it. If it counted in by technicalities, by technicalities they should be thwarted in their revolutionary purposes until they were made to feel that the will of the majority, when properly and legally expressed, must control. The President expressed the opinion that good people of all parties will, as the facts become known, emphatically condemn the outrage.

Representative Williams asked leave to make public the opinions expressed above by the President, and he then did so, submitting them to the President for revision.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

A SENSATIONAL STORY THAT 14,000 RIFLES HAVE BEEN SENT TO MAINE—REMINISCENCES BY SECRETARY RAMSEY.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Sensational stories respecting the critical condition of affairs in Maine continue to spring up in Washington. There was a rumor afloat to-day that news had been sent to Maine for the purpose of arming political clubs. General Sherman had not returned from New-York, but members of his staff said that no such news had been received at his headquarters.

A Tribune correspondent called upon Secretary Ramsey to-day. The Secretary said he had heard no news from Maine besides that contained in the morning papers.

Secretary Ramsey happens to have been an eager co-witness of the "buckshot" war in Pennsylvania, although not a participant in its exciting events. As soon as the subject of the attempt to steal the Maine Legislature and Governorship was introduced to-day, the Secretary said: "A very close parallel might be drawn between this Maine trouble and the difficulties connected with the organization of the Pennsylvania Legislature in December, 1838. The Whig Governor and Administration in Pennsylvania undertook to control the organization of the Legislature, to which a majority of Democrats had been elected. Public sympathy ran strongly in favor of the Democrats in that case, as it does with the Republicans in the Maine case. I was a young man of twenty-three then, an ardent Whig and active in politics, so that I took a very deep interest in the struggle. When the House met, both the Whigs and the Democrats elected speakers. At one end of the Speaker's desk I saw the Whig Speaker administering the oath to Whig members, while at the other end the Democratic Speaker was administering the oath to Democratic members. The Whigs then precipitately adjourned the House, and the Democrats proceeded more deliberately to complete their organization. They seated the Philadelphia members whom the Whig administration had tried to control.

"The next day the Whig Speaker and members did not dare to enter the House, such was the popular indignation against them. The late Thaddeus Stevens was the moving spirit of the Whig council, and he induced one of the Whig members, Mr. Spackman, of Philadelphia, who was personally popular with all parties, to go into the House with the Democrats for the purpose of declaring that body adjourned. Mr. Spackman did as he was directed, but no sooner had he declared the House adjourned than he was picked up and passed over the heads of the crowd and out of the door.

"The Whig House then met in Wilson's Tavern, and held sessions there for a few days, while the Democrats occupied the Representatives' Hall. The Whig Senate was also excluded from the Senate Chamber, which was occupied by the Democrats. During most of the month this condition of affairs continued, neither the Whig nor the Democratic Legislature being able to conduct any business. At last some of the more conservative members of the former body went into the Democratic Legislature and the difficulties were thus settled.

"As I remarked, I was a very ardent Whig, and I felt when the Whigs passed out of power in the State then that the country was lost; but it has turned out quite otherwise."

GENERAL GRANT TO VISIT JERSEY CITY.

CLOSE OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS AT PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—The series of demonstrations in this city in honor of General Grant was brought to a close to-night by a reception at the Union League House. General and Mrs. Grant stood on a platform and addressed the assembly. The League House from half past 8 until 10 o'clock, and gentlemen, ladies and several members of his cabinet were expected, but did not come.

General Pitt Sheridan stood near Mr. Grant and shook hands with all who came along. Colonel and Mrs. Fred Grant, Mr. General Sheridan and Jesse Grant were also present.

To-morrow General Grant will go to Jersey City to visit his mother, and will return on Thursday to take his Christmas dinner with Mr. Childs.

STEAMSHIP SUNK AT SEA.

MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED LIVES LOST.

FOUNDERING OF THE BORUSSIA AFTER A SEVERE STORM—ONLY TEN PERSONS, OUT OF TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FOUR ON BOARD, KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN SAVED.

The steamship Borussia, of the Dominion and Mississippi line, was abandoned at sea in a sinking condition on December 2 by a part of her crew, ten of whom were picked up in a small boat, by the ship Mallowdale, and were landed yesterday at Queenstown. There were on the steamer a crew of 54 and 180 passengers. How many of these remained on board and how many escaped in boats the conflicting reports leave in doubt; but the rescued men have little hope that any besides themselves survive. They believe that the vessel sunk in the darkness of the night, while they were still only a short distance from her; and that the other boats were swamped by the heavy waves.

STORY OF THE ABANDONMENT.

TEN PERSONS SAVED—A SURVIVOR'S STORY OF THE STORM AND THE ESCAPE—THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS SAID TO HAVE BEEN ONLY ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN.

LOSLOS, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1879.

The Times' Cork dispatch says ten men, survivors from the Borussia were landed by the Mallowdale. Their names are as follows: William Stuart Day, doctor, second officer; Wythe, third engineer; Henry Brown, Liverpool; William Banese, able seaman; James Dixon, quartermaster; Alexander Johnson and Henry Stevenson, stewards; and Patrick Cain and Patrick Quinn, coal-trimmers.

One of the survivors states that seventy-six passengers embarked at Liverpool. The vessel reached Corinna on November 25 all well. After having shipped some cargo and embarked about 80 Spanish emigrants, the Borussia proceeded to Havana on the 26th, the wind being light from the southeast, with a calm sea. On November 30 the wind freshened and increased to a gale. On the following day it suddenly changed to the north-north-west, blowing strong, with a cross-sea, in which the ship labored heavily. At noon she sprang a leak amidships. All efforts at the pumps were fruitless to keep the ship free. The water filled the engine-room and stokehold, putting out the fires and stopping the engines. The crew still continued to work at the pumps until next Tuesday (21st) when it was determined to abandon the vessel. Her boats were launched and provisioned and a part of the crew, with about a dozen passengers got into them. Those of the crew who remained by the vessel were the captain, second mate, the carpenter and two boys. A steward, the carpenter and two boys.

Shortly after leaving the vessel one of the boats swamped, and the occupants, five in number, were drowned. The survivors state that the steamer's covering-board, when they shoved off, was not more than two inches above water. It is supposed that the heavy waves came over her living freight. The fate of the other boats is doubtful, as nothing has been heard of their occupants since.

PART OF THE CREW OF THE BRITISH STEAMER BORUSSIA, CAPTAIN WILLIAMS, FROM LIVERPOOL, NOVEMBER 23, FOR NEW-YORK, WERE LOST.

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A CABINET SAID TO HAVE BEEN FORMED.

LOSLOS, Wednesday, Dec. 24, 1879.

The Times' Paris dispatch, dated midnight, says M. Leroyer has gone to Egypt for the benefit of his health.

The correspondent has just learned from an authoritative source that President Grévy has again summoned M. de Freycinet, and that an arrangement has been definitely arrived at, which is as follows:

M. de Freycinet becomes Premier and Minister of Works.
M. Waddington, Foreign Minister.
M. Léon Say, Minister of Finance.
M. Jules Ferry, Minister of Public Instruction.
M. Tirard, Minister of Commerce.
General Faure, Minister of War.
M. Jules Ferry, Minister of Marine.
M. Cochery, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.

THE DE LESSEPS CANAL PROJECT.

PREPARATIONS AT PANAMA TO RECEIVE THE PROJECTOR.

PANAMA, Dec. 12.—A committee has been appointed by the local government to make preparations for the proper reception of M. de Lesseps and his party, due at Aspinwall by the steamer Lafayette on the 20th inst. The foreign merchants in Panama have been omitted from a panel on this committee, although many of the principal contributors to the funds which run the government, and in which this case must pay the expenses of the fêtes in honor of the great canal-builder. The committee has arranged a programme of the affair. A banquet and a ball are proposed, the illumination of the city and a bull-fight. A number of engineers accompany M. de Lesseps, and will be employed, in addition to the party now engaged under the direction of M. Jégou, in surveying, examinations of the canal, and in the proposed excavation, to note the character, texture, hardness, etc., of the rock, in order to form an accurate estimate as possible of the cost of the canal. M. de Lesseps will remain in Panama two weeks, and will visit the United States via California.

THE TICHBORNE CASE AGAIN.

LOSLOS, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1879.

An announcement was issued yesterday and extensively circulated and placarded in London and in the provinces, stating that the Attorney-General having granted his fiat for a writ of error in the case of the Tichborne claimant, an association of persons, known as the Tichborne Association, had been formed for the purpose of raising a petition to the House of Commons, and for the restoration to the claimant of the properties, the heirlooms and possessions of the Tichborne Baronet.

THE IRON HAND IN CUBA.

HAVANA, Dec. 23.—Captain-General Blanco has issued a proclamation announcing that incendiaries and robbers captured in the disturbed districts will be tried by a verbal court-martial, and, upon conviction, will be sentenced to death, and that general officers of the army will have authority to approve such sentences. An official dispatch states that the ex-insurgent chief Pancho Jimenez, who was lately pardoned, took up arms again on the 20th inst. and joined a party of insurgents from Sancti Spiritus in an attack on the province of Sancti Spiritus. The troops repelled the attack, killing Jimenez with two of his lieutenants, and capturing the rest.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

SALE OF A RAILROAD ORDERED.

TRENTON, Dec. 23.—The Chancellor has ordered the sale of the Erie Railroad for the purpose of paying the claims of the mortgagees.

WESTERN TELEGRAPH WIRE DOWN.

BUFFALO, Dec. 23.—The recent storm of sleet and rain broke down sections of telegraph wires along the Lake Shore Railroad for a distance of seventy-five miles.

CONV